

1932

Privy Council Proceedings - 30 Jan 1942  
"Issue of Bonds for Manchurian Incident Expenses"

Speech by ARAKI

ARAKI (No. 11):- I shall answer the question concerning the activities of the Army. The announcement of the Commander of the Kwantung Army at the outset of the Manchurian Incident, in which the words "to make Manchuria a paradise" are seen, aimed at the pacification of the local people in view of the situation then and there; and it cannot be hastily taken as the very aim of the Army. I have warned the Commander to be careful in the future. The cause of the present Manchurian Incident after all lies in CHANG Hsueh-liang's inability to maintain friendly relations with the Japanese Army. Therefore, The Imperial Army cannot but extend its activities to all areas hitherto dominated by CHANG Hsueh-liang. Although it is rumored regarding the activities of the Army that the local Army disregards the central authorities and acts arbitrarily, it is necessary for the Army, whenever its right of self-protection is exercised, to take the initiative in order to attain its objective and maintain its prestige. This may give the impression of exceeding its authority. With regard to military command matters as the strategy and tactics of the Imperial Army, I submit the matter to your discernment. The relations with the Foreign Authorities are quite friendly.